



IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the abstract as indicated on the separate page submitted herewith.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a plant having enhanced ~~stimulating~~ root growth or for ~~enhancing the~~ producing a plant having enhanced formation of primary, lateral or adventitious roots ~~or for altering root geotropism, said~~ method comprising: which comprises increasing

(a) introducing into in a plant cell or plant part, the level of an isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a plant cytokinin oxidase wherein the plant cytokinin oxidase comprises the amino acid sequence motifs GHS (SEQ ID NO:38), VGGTLSN (SEQ ID NO: 39), VLGGLGQFG (SEQ ID NO:40), and ITRARI (SEQ ID NO:41), or other ~~protein which reduces the level of active cytokinins in a plant or plant part~~

(b) regenerating a plant therefrom; and

(c) selecting a plant having enhanced root growth or enhanced formation of primary, lateral, or adventitious roots.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for stimulating root growth or for enhancing the formation of lateral or adventitious roots or for altering root geotropism, said method comprising expression of a nucleic acid molecule encoding a plant cytokinin oxidase selected from the group consisting of:

- a. an isolated nucleic acid[[s]] molecule comprising a DNA sequence as given set forth in any one of SEQ ID NO[[s]]: 27, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 25[[,]] 26, 28 to 31, 33 or 34[[, ]] or the complement thereof,
- b. an isolated nucleic acid[[s]] molecule comprising the RNA sequence[[s]] corresponding to any of SEQ ID NO[[s]]: 27, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 25[[,]] 26, 28 to 31, 33 or 34[[, ]] or the complement thereof,